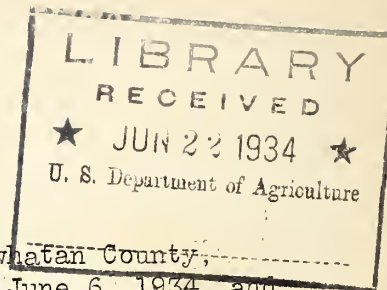


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1.9
Ex-21a

WHAT TEN YEARS OF HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK
HAS MEANT TO OUR FAMILY



A radio talk by Mrs. T. L. Timberlake, farm woman, Powhatan County, Virginia, delivered in the home demonstration radio program, June 6, 1934, and broadcast by a network of associate NBC radio stations.

Powhatan county, like many others in Virginia, boasts of old homes owned and occupied by the descendants of those to whom the original land grants were made by the English Crown; and though the women living in these old homes are proud of their tradition, they are keenly interested in new home-making ideas and the home demonstration work which has made many of these ancestral dwellings more convenient, pleasant and charming.

Home demonstration work as we have come in contact with it, is truly an educational program. (When I say "we", of course, I am referring to my own family.) And when I think of the home demonstration program in the personal terms - "What Ten Years of Home Demonstration Work Has Meant to Our Family," I realize my inability to tell you all it has meant to us as a rural family. Perhaps if I tell you a few of the many things this branch of service has brought to us in the way of experience and better living, I will have accomplished the purpose of which I am here.

In June, 1924, I became president of the first organized home demonstration club in Powhatan. At that time I was a typical rural woman, afraid to express what I felt or thought; and with that fear came the urge to use this home demonstration training that would help me become a better citizen and would show me how to provide a home and not merely a house for our family of four boys and four girls.

I joined the kitchen contest and we remodeled our kitchen. After much thought and much figuring with engineers in the state extension service, we installed a power unit that furnishes electricity and water for both the house and the dairy barn. These two conveniences alone have saved dollars in labor and hours in time.

During our 1931 county campaign for "A Vegetable Garden on Every Farm," we had a demonstration garden. From this project I learned many facts which perhaps indirectly, if not directly, led to my appointment as "Garden Director" for my county.

Our advisory board sponsored a Homemakers' Market in Richmond and those of us who took part learned to know what a marketable farm product is, how this product should be presented to the public, and its cash value.

Our children became 4-H club members and learned to do the daily home duties in cooperation with older members of the family. Were I asked to state, "What has been the most outstanding thing done in home demonstration work for my family?" I think I should say without hesitation, "Teaching cooperation in doing common tasks well." As a result of these teachings we have four 4-H girls who all know the fundamental principles of good home-making and four 4-H boys who know the fundamentals of good farm management.

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Home demonstration work has economic as well as educational values. We learn to use to better advantage the things we have, such as arranging the furnishings of our rooms to make them more attractive, comfortable and convenient. Often the only cost is that of well directed time. Then, too, in our home as in many others, an article is rarely discarded. It is remodeled or remade and nearly always comes into use more appreciated than before, for there is joy in creation and pride in work well done. In 1931 we kept accurate records of clothing and these records show 30 garments remodeled at a cost of \$5.00 and valued at \$80.00. Twenty new garments made at a cost of \$18.50 and valued at \$50.00. We have learned to use the feed bags from our dairy and poultry plant for many useful articles of clothing and home furnishings. Some we bleach and make into attractive lunch cloths, or perhaps dye them and make articles far too numerous to mention. When an article of clothing has passed its usefulness it is usually made into rugs.

The social pleasures found in home demonstration work have been as valuable as the educational and economical factors. During these last years when economy was the keynote in every home, we have found the contacts made possible by short courses, farm and home institutes, community gatherings, long-forgotten real home parties and picnics of far greater pleasure than expensive amusements. Our children, both the boys and girls, have had the benefits and training of camp life under the direction of capable farm and home demonstration leaders. While learning to do, they have learned to enjoy fellowship, cooperation, and fair play in sports, things that will fit them for better sportsmanship, better citizenship and better leadership.

"Train a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart therefrom." Surely in no home is a child so well trained as in the home that has known and worked under the guidance of home demonstration work.

With these few examples I have tried to tell you what ten years of home demonstration work has meant to our family.

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